

## ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

Pursuant to §55-102 of the Putnam County Code of Ethics and Financial Disclosure Law

Under §55-102 of the Putnam County Code of Ethics and Financial Disclosure Law, Chapter 55 of the Code of Putnam County, the Board of Ethics is required to submit an annual report of its operations to the Legislature.

During 2010, the Board met five times. All five of those meetings were open to the public (except for executive sessions to review disclosure statements and complaint specifics).

Under the Code, one of the Board's primary responsibilities is to review the Financial Disclosure Statements filed by County officers and employees. The review is to assure that the filed forms are complete and responsive on their face to the requirements of the law. The Board's review is done in executive session. The following is the record of Financial Disclosure Forms for 2009 reviewed and accepted or returned for clarification or completion during 2010:

March	Accepted	71 forms	Returned	21
April	Accepted	22 forms	Returned	5
May	Accepted	56 forms	Returned	9

The following is a summary of the Board's other activities in 2010:

- Completed an investigation of a complaint relating to alleged activities of a County Legislature.
- Reviewed and issued advisory opinions regarding two inquiries about potential conflicts of interest.
- Code change to reduce the \$10,000 per Ethics violation to \$100; Board recommended that \$100 was not significant enough to deter. Code was changed.
- Legislative inquiry sought the Board's opinion whether members of a committee, commission or board appointed by the Legislature for a limited time and purpose should be required to file a disclosure form.
- Researching the possibility of electronic submission and acceptance of the financial disclosure forms. Implementation will be sought during 2011.

- Received complaint regarding alleged actions by the Plumbing Board. Investigation was conducted by outside counsel with a “no fault” finding. Complaint was also referred to the District Attorney for potential action.
- A report was submitted to the Legislature listing all 29 persons who did not comply with the Chapter 55-109 section of County Code.

Dated: January , 2011

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PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS  
Robert Bickford, Chair  
Patricia Santamorena, Vice Chair  
Paul Eldridge, Secretary  
Kathleen Delamere, Member  
Alphonse Lotrecchiano, Member